

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-9 (canceled).

Claim 10 (currently amended): A substantially pure and isolated peptide having with an amino acid sequence ~~selected from the group consisting of shown in SEQ ID NO. 4, SQD, SLL and SEQ ID NO. 5.~~

Claims 11-12 (canceled).

Claim 13 (currently amended): A vaccine comprising at least one peptide having an amino acid sequence ~~derived from the~~ encoded by a fragment of a complementary determining region-3 (CDR3) of a T cell receptor gene ~~selected from the group consisting of BV14 and BV16~~ with a DNA sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 2 in an individual suffering from rheumatoid arthritis.

Claim 14 (currently amended): The vaccine of claim 13 comprising wherein the amino acid sequence of the at least one peptide having ~~an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of~~ is shown in SEQ ID NO. 3, SLS, SEQ ID NO. 4, SQD, SLL and SEQ ID NO. 5.

Claims 15-41 (canceled).

Claim 42 (currently amended): A pharmaceutical composition for suppressing pathogenic T cell response in an individual suffering from rheumatoid arthritis, comprising an immunologically effective amount of a peptide encoded by a DNA with the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 2 ~~derived from a single chain T cell receptor variable beta 14 (V.beta.14) or 16 (V.beta.16), or fragments thereof,~~ and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

Claim 43 (canceled):

Claim 44 (currently amended): The pharmaceutical composition of claim 43, wherein the amino acid sequence of the encoded peptide ~~comprises an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of~~ is shown in SEQ ID NO. 3, SLS, SEQ ID NO. 4, SQD, SLL and SEQ ID NO. 5.